



National Institutes of Health
National Institute of
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December 11, 2009

Dr. Christine Augustyniak
U.S. National Coordinator for the
OECD Test Guidelines Program
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building, Mail Code 7509P
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Dr. Augustyniak:

We have recently been made aware of a notification from OECD requesting public comments on the draft proposed *OECD Guidance for the Derivation of an Acute Reference Dose (ARfD)*, with a requested deadline of December 22, 2009. The Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) Acute Toxicity Working Group (ATWG) is pleased to provide comments on this document. We are responding on behalf of the ICCVAM and the ATWG to express our support for the Guidance Document. We ask that you forward these comments expeditiously to the OECD Secretariat for consideration by the member countries as part of the U.S. position on this document. We also ask that you provide us with the proposed U.S. position and any other U.S. comments that were provided so that we can make them available to ICCVAM and the ATWG.

Expeditious adoption of this proposed Guidance Document should support the development of an acute reference dose methodology, which will incorporate new developments in toxicology and refine the exposure calculation for the acute risk assessment. We look forward to participating with other national experts to advance the acceptance and use of the guidance document. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have questions about the comments.

Sincerely,

William S. Stokes, D.V.M., D.A.C.L.A.M.
Rear Admiral, U.S. Public Health Service
Director, NTP Interagency Center for the
Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological
Methods (NICEATM)
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Marilyn L. Wind, Ph.D.
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Deputy Associate Executive Director
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U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

cc:

Dr. Jess Rowland, U.S. EPA
ATWG

Enclosure:
Comments to the guidance document